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RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 001641

SIPDIS

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/19/2019

TAGS: [EU](#) [EUN](#) [GR](#) [MK](#) [TU](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#)

SUBJECT: TURKEY SUPPORTS MACEDONIA'S EU MEMBERSHIP AND  
RESOLUTION OF NAME ISSUE

REF: STATE 117721

Classified By: POL Counselor Daniel O'Grady, for reasons 1.4(b,d)

(SBU) On November 16 we delivered REFTEL talking points to Guclu Kalafat at MFA's Deputy Directorate General for Central and Southeastern Europe. He told us that Turkey strongly supports US objectives for Macedonia's EU integration and UNSYG's Envoy Matthew Nimetz's mediation efforts to resolve the "name issue" ahead of the December 10 EU Council Meeting.

Kalafat, however, expressed Turkey's concern that Macedonia's EU negotiations could be "taken hostage" by the name issue, citing Greece by name. We noted that the new Greek government has been both privately and publicly constructive. Kalafat responded that Turkey hopes Macedonia's EU process progresses positively.

JEFFREY

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